



Friendship Church
Loving God...Loving People

FRIENDSHIP GOOD NEWS

April 23, 2021



From Pastor Mike...

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland."

Isaiah 43:18-19

**In person and Facebook Live
Church Service
Small Groups**

**Sunday April 25, 2021
9:30 AM Small Groups — 10:30 Church Service**

In **Isaiah 43:18-19**, God says, *"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland."* Let's take a few moments to consider what this means.

First, God does not want us to dwell on the past. I don't think He means for us to forget those happy memories He has put in our past. I just think He doesn't want us living there. We can't change the past and we cannot go back to it. We can certainly learn from it, but God wants us to dwell on what He is doing now!

God is always at work around us. His ways are not our ways - His ways are higher than our ways. (Isaiah 55:8-9) As I have been teaching verse-by-verse through the Book of Acts, I have seen many times when things didn't go as hoped or expected for the Apostle Paul. God's ways are many times mysterious and don't make sense to us. But for each problem (opportunity), Paul allowed God to use his circumstances to bring good out of evil.

Here is the spiritual reality - God IS making way in this dry and thirsty land. He is creating roads in the desert and streams in the wastelands. The question is, "How do we perceive it?" I think the only way to do this is to be still in His Presence, seek Him through prayer and stay in His Word. Ask Him to help us discern these crazy times we live in. He is at work in and through what our world is currently going through. Let's trust Him!

"Normal" is not coming back. But Jesus is! Keep your eyes on the eastern skies!

I love you all,

Pastor Mike



SERVICES LIVE ON FACEBOOK

Every Sunday morning at 11am

ONLINE LIVE PRAYER MEETINGS

Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening at 7pm

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE

Every Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm

SUNDAY SCHOOL GROUPS

Every Sunday morning at 9:30 am

**Get updated prayer requests and
announcements.**

To sign up, text your name to 479.422.1079

GOSPEL PROJECT

SMALL GROUPS

The Sent Church (Acts; Epistles)

**Sunday's lesson: *"The Church Is
United in the Gospel"***

**Classes are currently meeting in person at 9:25 am. If
you would like to join online using Zoom, check with
your Sunday School teacher as most classes also have**

LADIES STUDY

A 30 Day Walk With God Through The Psalms

by Nancy Leigh DeMoss

There are two group times, Tuesdays or Thursdays at
6:30 pm on zoom, which ever works best for you.



Friendship Attendance

Apr 18

Small group Bible study - 54

Celebration worship - 96

Tithes & Offering

Sunday, Apr. 18—\$9,469.77

Friendship Birthdays

April 26 – Sherry Moore

2 Corinthians 9:7

God loves a cheerful giver

Online giving is easier than ever!

[CLICK HERE](#) to try out our new online giving service.

Wednesday Evening Service

Join us at 6:30 at the church as we study sharing the Gospel.

3 CIRCLES: Life Conversations

Need encouragement and strength?

Join us Friday, Saturday,
and Sunday evenings
at 7 PM on Zoom



“So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding.”

1 Corinthians 14:15

Are you waiting for a sign from God to tell you how you can make a difference in the world?



HERE'S
YOUR
SIGN

Become a Children's Ministry volunteer!

Did you know?

The probability of someone embracing Jesus as their savior between the ages of 5 and 12 is **32%.**

The probability of someone embracing Jesus as their savior between ages 13 and 18 is **4%.**

The probability of someone embracing Jesus as their savior who is 19 and older is **6%.**

If someone doesn't accept Jesus when they are a child, the chances of them doing so later in life are slim.

Statistically, the greatest mission field in our church is the Children's Ministry.

Pray about it today. If you feel like God is calling you to serve in this area, I would love to hear from you.

GOSPEL PROJECT FOR KIDS – WEEKLY UPDATE

Unit 32, Session 3: **The Church Divided**

Many people rejected the good news about Jesus, but God had a plan for Paul to share the gospel with Gentiles, no matter what troubles Paul faced. Many believed in Jesus. The church grew and the gospel spread so that people all over the world could be saved from their sin by trusting in Jesus.

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY: • Paul wrote a letter to believers in Corinth, where he had helped start a church.

- The people argued over which teachers and leaders were best.
- Paul reminded the believers that all Christians follow Jesus.
- The gospel unites all kinds of people in love.

KEY PASSAGE: Matthew 28:19-20

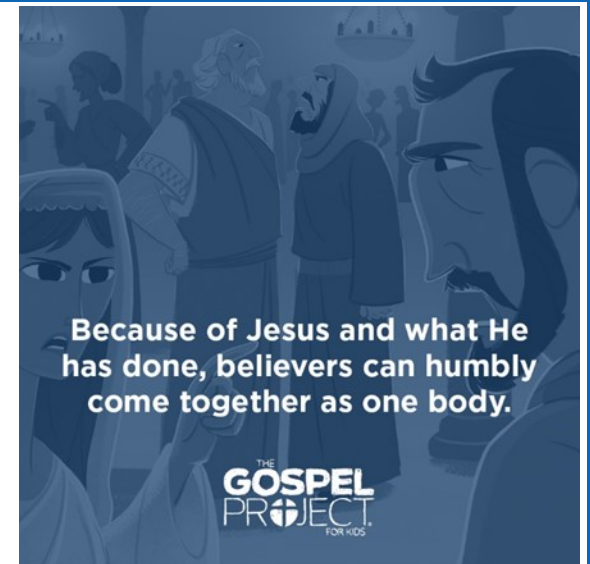
- What is our mission as Christians? Our mission is to make disciples of all nations by the power of the Holy Spirit.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS: • Who are some people you struggle to get along with?

- How can you show love to those people?
- Why do you think God unites all kinds of people through Jesus?

FAMILY ACTIVITY: • Lead your kids in kitchen experiments. Try to find unexpected food combinations that actually taste good.

Discuss God's plans to unite all kinds of people.



Blessings, Mary Ann